

The Evening Times.

ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST 25, 1908

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THE SILENT CONVENTION

Of singular interest among the many conventions held in this city, is that of the deaf mutes. The fact that eighty delegates are in attendance illustrates the fact that there are in these provinces many persons who are afflicted with loss of hearing and the power of speech. It may be that the citizens do not give much thought to the institution on the west side of the harbor where children who are deaf and dumb are the pupils. Yet it is a school which even more than the ordinary schools should appeal for sympathy and public support. If the people feel it to be their duty to give free schooling to children endowed with all their faculties, surely the appeal of those little ones bereft of speech and hearing should be even more insistent. The New Brunswick School for the Deaf should really be a provincial institution, endowed by the state, instead of one which is partially supported by the state but also dependent to a considerable degree upon private benevolence.

TRADE IN WARSHIPS

The announcement that Brazil is having built in England three battleships of the Dreadnought class has caused considerable speculation, and rumor had it that these vessels were really intended for Japan. A writer in the Nineteenth Century has shown that the Japanese were in no way exercising supervision over the construction of three ships, which for that matter they could have built in secret in their own yards; and that in spite of a general likeness in plan they were not being built according to methods which the Japanese admiralty uniformly enforces.

Still, it is recalled that other South American states have sold their warships. In 1895 Japan bought the cruiser Idzumi and in 1890 the armored cruisers Iwate and Idzumi from Chile. In 1903 Great Britain took over the battle-ships Triumph and Swiftsure from Chile to insure against their passing into Russia's hands, and Japan bought the armored cruisers Kasuga and Nishin from Argentina. This leads the New York World to observe:

"An interesting situation is produced if minor powers like those of South America are to go into the business of building navies for sale or hire. All the carefully laid programmes of the naval powers are likely to be thrown into confusion. In time of emergency there might be keen bidding for these extra warships and minor powers would be able to pocket a handsome profit. For Brazil to order three Dreadnoughts with the purpose of turning them over to Japan or Germany or Great Britain would not be unlike the scheme of railroad promoters who parallel another line with an eye to selling it."

THE TURKISH REVOLUTION

The announcement that the leaders of the Young Turk party will meet in Geneva to discuss the question of deposing the present Sultan reminds us, says an exchange, that the present revolution in Turkey has been to a large extent the result of meetings held outside of Turkey. Mundi Bey, the Turkish consul-general at New York, gives the Independent an account of some of these. The article is thus summarized by a New York exchange:

"This writer says that the history of the Young Turk party is to be traced back to the times of Sultan Abdul Aziz, the uncle of the present ruler of the Ottoman empire. During his reign Prince Mustafa Pasha, who occupied many important positions in Turkey, took with him to Paris a few bright young Turks to be educated. They soon imbibed western notions and started a Turkish weekly to propagate those ideas among their compatriots at Constantinople. It was to these men, while still students at Paris, that the phrase 'Young Turks' was first applied.

Sultan Abdul Aziz was deposed in May, 1876, and was succeeded by his nephew, Murad V, who in turn was deposed at the end of August in the same year. The latter was succeeded by his brother, Abdul Hamid II, the present Sultan. In

December of the same year a new Constitution was proclaimed, and the first parliament chosen under it met in March of the following year. This parliament was dissolved by the Sultan in February, 1878. From that time until the grant of the new Constitution, on July 24 last, Turkey passed through very many humiliating experiences. The prestige of the nation was weakened, abuses grew steadily greater, the people languished in poverty and the troops were badly paid. The Young Turkish party became very active and began to smuggle revolutionary publications into the country. The people became enlightened and a revolution became inevitable. The first alarm came from Paris, where, in December, 1897, representatives of the revolutionary and progressive parties among the Turks, Armenians, Greeks, Bulgarians, Jews, Kurds and all other subject nations of the Ottoman empire assembled in a congress. The participants pledged themselves to lay aside all racial strife, to unite against the tyranny of the Sultan's absolute monarchy, and to establish a constitutional regime in Turkey. To bring about these results they decided upon armed resistance, persuading officials and police to resign under the existing regime, refusal to pay taxes, propaganda in the army so as to persuade soldiers not to open fire on the people or the revolutionists, and a general insurrection, other measures to be adopted according to circumstances. The president of this congress was Prince Sebastian, a nephew of the Sultan.

"As the result of the work of the Paris congress, secret workers went into Turkey and found many prominent officials and military leaders ready to welcome the call of the congress and only waiting for an opportunity to put its recommendations into effect. Two of the military leaders who favored the revolution were Enver Bey and Nissaz Bey. The anniversary of the Sultan's accession to the throne was chosen as the date for a coup d'etat and general insurrection. The movement was precipitated by the recent visit of King Edward to the East, when the Macedonian question was up for consideration. The revolutionists felt that the loss of Macedonia would mean the end of the Ottoman empire. Advised by the officers above mentioned, the army in Macedonia revolted, and an envoy was dispatched to Constantinople to demand that Abdul Hamid proclaim the Constitution. It was represented to him that unless he complied with this demand, three hundred thousand soldiers would march on the capital, put an end to the Sultan's rule and establish a free government.

"When this demand reached Abdul Hamid, Albania had already revolted, Anatolia was in disturbance, the Kurds in Deserd were aggressive and general discontent was growing. Two liberal leaders of former times, Said Pasha and Kamil Pasha, were called from their seclusion, and upon their advice the Sultan proclaimed the Constitution of 1876. This document secures freedom of religion and of the press, security of life and property and equality before the law. It needs revision, and Mundi Bey declares that it has already been decided what the changes will be. In the first place, the absolutism of the Sultan will be abolished. In the next place, the thirty senators will be elected by a public vote instead of being appointed by the Sultan. Still another change will involve the election of a deputy by every 25,000 voters instead of by 50,000. The writer of the article, who is evidently a strong adherent of the young Ottoman party, entertains no fear that the Sultan will evade the promises recently made by him, no matter how reluctant he may be to perform them. The skill and secrecy with which the revolutionary movement was carried through, doubtless convey their own warning to him."

In a very interesting interview which we had in our Sunday's issue with Dr. Loehlin, professor of law in the Imperial University of Tokyo, says the Victoria Colonist, this paragraph occurs: "Chinese laborers are not allowed to come into the country and compete with Japanese labor because they have a lower standard of living than the Japanese, and can do harder and more work than the Japanese of the same class. Last year 300 Chinese coolies brought into the country to work upon a railway in course of construction were deported under this law." In the face of such testimony as to the policy of Japan in respect to immigrants, it is difficult to understand on what grounds that country can object to an exclusion law framed by this country.

The Ottawa Journal says: "If the reforestation of the treeless waste lands of Massachusetts with white pine would represent an estimated value of nine hundred million dollars, as State Forester Rane asserts, what would the reforestation of all Canada's denuded timber areas be worth? Looking at the issued results so far as the Dominion is concerned, The Journal would like to see Canadian reforestation taken up and going ahead a great deal faster than it is."

"Is this section prosperous?" "You bet it is," answered the Kansas farmer. "It has spread a net any time, and shake a grand piano out of a cyclone."—Pittsburg Post.

THE EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B. TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1908.

Store Closes at 6 p. m.

St. John, Aug. 25th, 1908.

School Boys' Clothing

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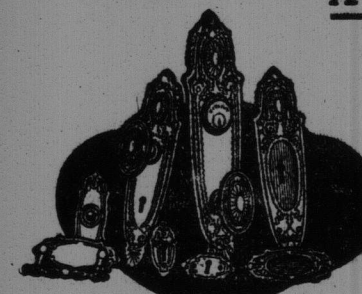
Sizes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \$2.25.
Sizes 11, 12, 13, 1.75.

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THE QUEBEC BATTLEFIELDS

Shrouded in mist and snowdrift,
But dim in the dawning light,
The "New Lands" spring to sight.

When into a mighty river
Came Viking Chieftains of yore
And sailed under sleep and headland,
And ran their ships ashore.

Erie, and Lait, and Thorfinn
Did they break through the silent foe?
Did they rouse the sleeping monsters?
Did they find them friend or foe?

Did they track racoon and martin
And sleep in the wild dog's lair?
Did they ride the hoofs of the chipmunk
And steal his coat from the bear?

As they sailed up the great St. Lawrence
Did they look to a day once more
When a handful of dauntless sailors
Should land on that upland shore?

Did they dream of the strife and struggle
A contingent lost and gained?
Of a field once green as the Chestnut
That red as the Maple stained?

When the heart of a far small island
Three thousand miles away
Would thrill the hearts of valor
That were told of Her sons that day.

Would glow as She laid Her tribute
The olive branch and the sword,
Alike upon friend and foe,
On Wolfe and on brave Montcalm.

And how friend and foe would mingle,
Full of world-wide nation awe,
A nation of equal sons,
Wherever the battle flew.

And those fields once red as the maple
Would be shown a great peace Angel
Would be shown a great peace Angel
On the heights above Quebec.

—Thomas Gore Browne, daughter of the late Bishop of Winchester.

IN LIGHTER VEIN

NATURALLY.

Niece—"Uncle, they say there are more marriages of blondes than of brunettes. Why is it so?"

Uncle Singleton (a confirmed bachelor)—"It is, naturally, the light-headed ones go first."—Argonaut.

EXPERIENCED.

"So you once lived in Africa, Sam?" "Yes, sah."

"Did you do any missionary work out there, Sam?" "Yes, sah. I was cook for a cannibal chief, sah."—Pick-Me-Up.

AN ODDIOUS COMPARISON.

A king's coachman is a personage of no small importance. During the queen's visit to her late majesty, Queen Victoria, had a bedding scene of the dignity and respectability of his position. On the occasion of the jubilee of 1897 he was asked to give any of the royal and imperial guests at that time quartered in Buckingham Palace.

"Your Majesty," was his reply, "I am the Queen's coachman; I don't drive the H.M. staff."—A. & P.

SURE CURE FOR MOTHERS.

She was a suburban lady whose house was quite overrun with weeds. A tramp told her that in return for a square meal, she set him a square meal before her. She set him a square meal before her. She set him a square meal before her. She set him a square meal before her.

"All ye need to do, ma'am, is to hang yer moth-balled coat on a stick. Good-bye to yer weeds then." "Will that kill them?" asked the lady.

"Yes, if ye hit 'em," replied the tramp.—New York Sun.

SISTERLY FRANKNESSES.

Lord Houghton's sister was often annoyed at her brother's indiscriminate hospitality. "Do you remember, my dear," she said, "at dinner one day, 'whether that famous second-hand X was hanged or acquitted'?"

"Ye must have been hanged or you would have had him to dinner long ago," replied the lady.

UNBEGHERLY SARCASTIC.

They were discussing the relative position of various countries as musical centres. Germany seemed to have the most vocalists, much to the evident displeasure of one of the Italian, who wished his own country to carry off the palm. "Italy is turning out the most musicians, and has always turned out the most," he cried.

"Ach Gott!" exclaimed a German present, "can you please deny?"—Auntie and Trama.

MARITIME GAMBLING

The Imperial Merchant Service Guild. The Arcade, Lord Street, Liverpool, August 14th, 1908.

The Editor of the Times: Sir,—I feel that, in justice to the fair name of an honorable profession, I should officially protest against the thinly-veiled insinuations which have been cast by certain shipowners upon the captains of British merchant ships in connection with maritime "P. P. I." policies. It does not consider that shipowners should shuffle out of this matter at the expense of shipmasters, who are not prone to casting ships away as some would allege.

As everybody knows, the present controversy has sprung from the recent Bill of Trade inquiry into the wreck of the S.S. "Albion" where, from the procedure which was followed, there was an obvious inference that and been cast away. But there was not a shred of evidence in support of the theory, and officers and officers were completely exonerated from any blame in the matter.

Within my very long personal experience of Board of Trade inquiries there has never been a single case of a ship being cast away. Barratry amongst shipmasters of the present generation is a thing unknown and possibly on his officers' also. The position then is, not so much the defence of their certificates, as to save themselves from gaol, and the lasting humiliation and degradation of themselves and their friends.

There is another important point which must not be missed. I see a statement of a shipowner that, hearing that "P. P. I." policies had been effected on one of his ships, he summarily discharged the whole of the officers and crew. This is a sample of justice as meted out by certain British ship owners. It is one of the charms of modern seagoing, and accounts for anyone with a spark of pride or ambition turning to anything but the sea for employment.

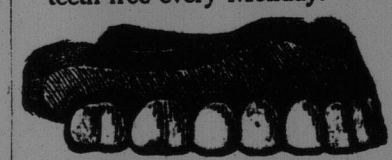
If captains and officers are summarily thrown out of positions they have taken long years to attain simply because some quite unknown outsiders choose, for reasons best known to themselves, to take out "P. P. I." policies, then the time is quite ripe to invoke a drastic remedy.

British shipmasters have far more to complain about than British shipowners in the matter of "P. P. I." policies. They will gladly co-operate with shipowners in abolishing a pernicious form of gambling, but in doing so they are not going to sit down and tacitly admit any suggestion that they might be guilty of participating in nefarious transactions which possibly would end in the sacrifice of human life.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
E. W. MOORE, Secretary.

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